



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

COUNCILMEMBERS

Liz Walsh, Chair
District 1

Opel Jones, Vice Chair
District 2

Deb Jung
District 4

Christiana Rigby
District 3

David Yungmann
District 5

Meeting Minutes - Approved

Capital Budget Work Session #2

Recreation and Parks; Agricultural Preservation; General County

Virtual Meeting

Friday, April 23, 2021

9:00 a.m.

The Chairperson opened the Meeting at 9:03 a.m.

Members Present: Liz Walsh, Chairperson; Opel Jones, Vice Chairperson; Deb Jung; Christiana Rigby; David Yungmann.

Council Staff Present: Michelle Harrod, Council Administrator; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor.

Administration Staff Present: Noted below.

Recreation and Parks

Department of Recreation and Parks responded to questions from Council Members. General discussion about status of various projects.

Highlighted project was *N3108 - Park Enhancement Cedar Lane East*. General discussion about the details of this park, including the merits of an artificial turf field versus natural turf; impervious surfaces; light and noise levels; and stormwater management. The Council requested information about light studies; decibels from proposed public announcement system; and cost benefit analysis of artificial versus natural turf fields.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- Time line and design for the COVID19 Memorial Park;
- Details of timing for the Patuxent Path grant funding;
- Details of the number of acres planted and managed;
- Details of funding for Program Open Space; and
- Recreation and Park Land Opportunity Plan.

Agricultural Preservation

Director of Planning and Zoning, Amy Gowan indicated that in the review of the Howard County General Plan, an analysis on agricultural preservation will be included. Joy Levy stated

that approximately \$22 million remains in the Agricultural Preservation Fund and that the Administration is not concern about cash flow for future Installment Purchase Agreements.
Public Works – General County

Department of Public Works responded to questions from Council Members. General discussion about status of various projects including contingency funding; Pay-as-You-GO funding; use of transfer tax; environmental assessments; and purchase of certain properties.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- Detail about the approach for applying PAYGO versus Bonds; and
- Details of outstanding bonds with interest higher than 3%.

C0290 – Courthouse Renovation/Replacement

The Budget Office, Finance and Department of Public Works responded to questions from Council Members about the new courthouse construction. County staff will be moved into the new facility by July 6, 2021. Payments to the vendor will begin in FY2022 for the milestone payment (\$75m), FFE (\$3m), and annual availability payment (\$6.6m).

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- A revised fiscal analysis based on known costs;
- Overall capital and operating budget impact of this project;
- Details on the vacated office space;
- Calculation of the debt service limit; and
- Details on the plan for use of the old courthouse and surrounding property.

C0301- Technology Infrastructure Upgrades

Director of Technology and Communication, Brandee Ganz provided an overview of the technology capital projects. General discussion about support of telework during the pandemic and a plan for return to work. The Council requested additional information about the regulations for how bonds can support technology which does not have a 20-year life cycle.

C0317 –Systemic Facilities Improvement

Bureau of Facilities Chief, Mark Stromdahl responded to questions from Council Members. General discussion about Long Reach Village Center, (LRVC), the status of this project, cash flow from tenants and establishing an Enterprise Fund for this “business operation”.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- Details of costs, revenues and plans for LRVC;
- Details by capital project of employees paid out of project expense;

C0333- Detention Center Renovations

Bureau of Facilities Chief, Mark Stromdahl responded to questions from Council Members. General discussion about the status of this project. The Council requested additional information about the cost to renovate; halfway facility for women; comparison to other jurisdictions and the statistics on the population.

C0335- Community Resources and Services Facility & Program Enhancements

Director of Department of Community Resources and Services (DCRS), Jackie Scott responded to questions from the Council. General discussion about the cost, LEED certification, programs available, and comparison of the proposed East Columbia 50+ Center to the other centers in the County.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- Comparison by center of square foot, cost and programs available;
- Evaluation of the cost for East Columbia 50+ Center; and
- Demographics of residents using the 50+ Centers regionally

An additional FY2022 Capital Budget work session scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. to include General County; Water; Sewer; Drainage; and Ellicott City projects.

The Meeting concluded at 2:53 p.m.

Administration Staff Present:

Recreation and Parks:

Raul Delerme
Bob Liz
Brian Moody

Mark Richmond
Carl Katenkamp
John Seefried
Brandon Love
Robert (Zach) Hollenbeck
Kris Jagarapu
Art Shapiro
Ross Beschner
Daniel Davis
Amy Hart

Rafiu Ighile
Angela Price
Nikki Griffith

Administration:

Carl Delorenzo

Budget:

Holly Sun
Brook Mamo

Corrections:

Jama Acuff

DCRS

Jackie Scott
Jenna Crawley
Cheryl Mattis

DPW:

Tom Meunier
Rebecca Kidwell
Mark Stromdahl
Sharon Walsh
Mark Deluca

DPZ:

Amy Gowen
Joy Levy

DTCS:

Brandee Ganz
Sandra Tello
TJ Mayotte
Caitlin Nardillo

EDA:

Larry Twele
Elaine Brown

Finance:

Fleet:

Robert Phillips
Sylvia Gould
Gary Bois

Office of Transportation

Bruce Gartner
Christopher Eatough
David Cookson

Sustainability:

Josh Feldmark